Prayer 1/8/01

Almighty and everlasting heavenly Father, how tiny and unnoticeable we are in thy presence. As we worship + praise thee we are overwhelmed with our smallness - and at the same time with thine omnipotence, thine incomprehendable power and majesty. Give ear to our prayers, may our individual + collective acts of worship be acceptable to thee.

In the midst of chaos + confusion, the hum-drum of living we find ourselves speechless when in silence we confront thee. In this solitude descend upon us, fill us with thy spirit, grant us understanding of thine eternal mysteries.

At this most sacred occassion we are grateful for thine ever present love. In Jesus Christ we see it manifested before our eyes. In his divinely instituted sacrament we see the real possibility of actively participating in this love, the possibility of recieving redeemption and salvation.

At this time we are reminded of his compassion for his disciples and for all mankind. We are reminded of how he dramatically demonstrated the sacrifice he must make by - breaking bread and blessing a cup.

But most of all we are reminded in this sacrament that all that we have, all that we do + all that we are - are wholly dependent on thee. Because of thy grace we live, because of thy grace we breathe, and carry on life together - and even because of thy grace we worship.

Make us more worthy of the unspeakable miracle of thy concern. Limited and finite as we are we frequently forget how priviledged we are. Grant us humility of heart mind, + quickness of spirit that we may be fully aware of thy generosity. Forgive us our Father.

Humbly we ask thy blessing for all those afflicted with ill health, we ask thy comfort for those whose joy has been shattered by death, we ask for thy peace. For all those lives are mangled and warped by mental disturbances. We ask for courage for all those in whose shoulders the governments of the world rest. Give them responsibility steadfastness of purpose. We ask strength for thy church + its members every where - with thine inspiration may we be an acceptable part of thy kingdom on earth.

Finally our Father - grant us direction + wisdom, understanding and oneness of purpose that our lives may be a witness to thy goodness. all this we ask - in that we may more effectively serve thee. In the name of our Lord + Savior even Jesus Christ

Amen